

**STATUS OF THE CLAIMS PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.121**

Claims 1 - 26 (Canceled).

27. (Previously Presented) A method for the detection of multiple sclerosis comprising:

- a) providing:
  - i) a brain tissue sample, having a periplaque region, from a human suspected of having a demyelinating disease and
  - ii) transferrin;
- b) reacting, in vitro, said brain tissue sample with transferrin; and
- c) evaluating said periplaque region for binding with transferrin wherein a finding of transferrin binding, in said periplaque region, confirms the detection of multiple sclerosis in said brain tissue sample.